REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-3, 5-8, 11-22 and 26-38 were rejected as being obvious over Schaub '045 in view of Vinci. Claims 4 and 10 were rejected over those references, and further in view of La Neve. Claims 23, 24 and 25 were rejected over the first two references, and further in view of Shimizu, Hwang and Tymkewicz, respectively. Claims 9 and 24 were further rejected over the first two references, and further in view of McIntosh.

Reconsideration is requested.

Referring first to claim 23, the claim is being amended herein. The claim is not being narrowed, but merely clarified to better define "access control circuit" according to the paragraph bridging pages 7 and 8 in the specification. The Office Action seems to have misunderstood the claimed "access control circuit." The cited reference (Shimizu) does not disclose an access control circuit, but instead discloses a ferroelectric memory with a circuit for controlling access to the memory itself. As amended, claim 23 recites that the access control circuit "emits an access signal." As explained in the paragraph bridging pages 7 and 8, the access signal is for "entrance control, ... to allow access to any institution". No such access signal being disclosed or suggested in Shimizu, reconsideration and allowance of claim 23 is requested.

Reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-22 and 24-38 is also requested. The Examiner agrees that Schaub does not disclose "measuring and displaying a plurality of physical values" or "a plurality of sensors for measuring and displaying a plurality of physical values" as recited in various independent claims. The Examiner cites Vinci, to provide an example of a "sensor" or "sensors" that allegedly could be added to the Schaub pocketknife. Vinci discloses a multi-purpose sensor unit with various electronics.

However, neither reference can suggest physically combining Vinci's sensor unit with Schaub's pocketknife. There is no suggestion in the art that Vinci's multipurpose sensor assembly, which is so large and complicated that a cable is needed to connect it to its electronic unit (which is also large and complicated), could be integrated into the Schaub pocketknife in order to meet the claims.

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On the contrary, the teaching of the Vinci patent is that its multi-purpose sensor unit cannot be miniaturized, and cannot be combined in a single unit with a measuring and display device unit, to be made as compact as a pocket knife. Neither reference even suggests that it is possible to miniaturize Vinci's sensor device and include it in a structure such as the Schaub pocketknife.

For at least these reasons, it is submitted that the Schaub and Vinci references are not properly combinable, and accordingly, the rejections are requested to be withdrawn and claims 1-38 are requested to be allowed.

New claims 39-41 depend from claim 1 and are directed to a pocket knife having a measuring and display device including an altimeter, a barometer or a scale, respectively, in combination with the other features of claim 1, including the menu circuit. Allowance of these claims is requested as well. McIntosh discloses a mechanical spring scale, but nothing suggesting claim 41 with its circuit features. No altimeter or barometer relevant to claim 39 or 40 is seen in the other art. The Joder et al. and Gardiner et al. documents are antedated by the PCT filing date of the present application and accordingly are not prior art.

In view of the foregoing, allowance of claims 1-41 is requested.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, Attention: Examiner Gail Kaplan Verbitsky, facsimile no. (703) 872-9306 on August 9, 2004:

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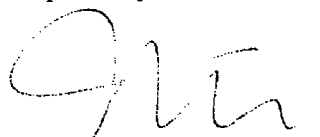Name of applicant, assignee or
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August 9, 2004
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Date of Signature

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Respectfully submitted,

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